

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 164009
ORIGIN SS-25

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DRAFTED BY TEXT SUPPLIED BY WHITE HOUSE
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE
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AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BONN
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AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 164009

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDEV, WA, SF, ZA

SUBJECT: LETTER ON NAMIBIA FROM PRESIDENT CARTER TO
PRESIDENT KAUNDA

REF: LUSAKA 2527

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1. PLEASE PASS TO PRESIDENT KAUNDA TEXT OF FOLLOWING
LETTER FROM PRESIDENT CARTER ON NAMIBIA. LETTER WAS
SIGNED BY THE PRESIDENT ON JUNE 26 AND IS IN REPLY TO
PRESIDENT KAUNDA'S LETTER OF JUNE 13 (REFTEL). SIGNED
ORIGINAL IS BEING POUCHED.

2. BEGIN TEXT: DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: THANK YOU

FOR YOUR LETTER OF JUNE 13 CONCERNING THE LUANDA SUMMIT AND COMMENTING ON THE SITUATION IN NAMIBIA. LAYING THE GROUNDWORK FOR THE LUANDA MEETING IS BUT ONE MORE EXAMPLE OF YOUR UNSTINTING AND CRUCIAL EFFORTS TOWARD A PEACEFUL, INTERNATIONALLY ACCEPTABLE SETTLEMENT.

I ENJOYED TREMENDOUSLY OUR DISCUSSIONS AND FELLOWSHIP DURING YOUR RECENT VISIT. YOUR WISE ADVICE AND COUNSEL, AND YOUR CONSISTENT COURAGE IN MEETING THE DIFFICULTIES FOR ZAMBIA FROM THIS DANGEROUS SITUATION, HELP SUSTAIN US AS WE PUSH TOWARDS JUST AND PEACEFUL

RESOLUTIONS OF PROBLEMS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA.

AS YOU UNDOUBTEDLY KNOW, REPRESENTATIVES OF THE FIVE IN DAR ES SALAAM HAVE RECEIVED PRESIDENT NYERERE'S REPORT ON THE SUMMIT AND HAVE BEEN IN CONTACT WITH HIM ABOUT THE NEXT STEPS IN THE NAMIBIA NEGOTIATIONS.

AT PRESIDENT NYERERE'S REQUEST, WE HAVE ALREADY INFORMED THE SOUTH AFRICANS OF THE VIEWS EXPRESSED AT THE FRONTLINE SUMMIT, AND THEY MAINTAINED POSITIONS THEY HAVE TAKEN IN THE PAST. OUR SETTLEMENT EFFORTS ARE CLEARLY ENTERING A DIFFICULT PHASE, BUT ONE WE HOPE WILL LEAD TO A SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION.

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THE TWO REMAINING MAJOR ISSUES, WALVIS BAY AND THE LOCATION OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN RESIDUAL FORCE, ARE OF CONSIDERABLE IMPORTANCE, GIVEN THE INTERESTS BOTH SWAPO AND SOUTH AFRICA FEEL ARE AT STAKE.

BEFORE THE LUANDA MEETING, THE CONTACT GROUP INFORMED YOU OF THE POSITION WHICH THE FIVE GOVERNMENTS WOULD BE PREPARED TO TAKE IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL ON THE WALVIS BAY ISSUE IN THE CONTEXT OF SWAPO'S ACCEPTANCE OF OUR PROPOSAL. I NOTE THAT IN YOUR LETTER YOU MAKE THE POINT THAT WALVIS BAY SHOULD BE PART OF AN INDEPENDENT NAMIBIA. THAT POSITION IS QUITE SIMILAR TO OUR OWN. I AM CONFIDENT THAT THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CONTACT GROUP AND THE FRONTLINE STATES IN NEW YORK, WHO ARE NOW WORKING ON THIS MATTER, WILL BE ABLE TO DEVISE A MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE FORMULATION OF A SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION. THE UNITED STATES TAKES ITS INVOLVEMENT IN THE WALVIS BAY QUESTION MOST SERIOUSLY AS PART OF A NAMIBIA SETTLEMENT.

THE ISSUE OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN TROOPS DURING THE TRANSITIONAL PERIOD MUST ALSO BE TREATED WITH GREAT

CARE. WE ARE CONFIDENT THAT THE SUBSTANTIAL UN
PRESENCE WE ENVISAGE WILL ELIMINATE ANY OFFENSIVE
THREAT TO ANGOLA OR ZAMBIA. AT THE SAME TIME, WE ARE
AWARE OF THE IMPORTANT PSYCHOLOGICAL FACTORS INVOLVED FOR
SWAPO, AND WE HOPE THAT WE CAN FIND A WAY TO SATISFY
THESE CONCERNS WITHOUT GIVING SOUTH AFRICA A REASON TO
WITHDRAW ITS ACCEPTANCE OF THE FIVE'S PROPOSAL.

I HOPE THAT THE FIVE WILL BE ABLE TO MOVE FORWARD
QUICKLY TOWARDS THE NAMIBIA SETTLEMENT WE ALL DESIRE.
I AM HEARTENED BY THE FACT THAT YOU AND I ARE WORKING
TOGETHER, IN THE CONTEXT OF OUR PERSONAL FRIENDSHIP.

I LOOK FORWARD TO YOUR CONTINUING INSIGHTS ON ATTAINING
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OUR SHARED GOALS. SINCERELY, JIMMY CARTER. END TEXT.
VANCE

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